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State of Wisconsin
Department of Corrections

March 2, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Cynthia G. Moore
             Recycling Team Leader, Bureau of Waste Management
             Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

FROM: Steve Kronzer, Director
             Bureau of Correctional Enterprises

SUBJECT: Badger State Industries Computer Recycling Program

Badger State Industries (BSI) Computer Recycling Program has played a huge role in the growing and rapidly changing market of computer waste recycling. In reaction to this growth, it is time for the Computer Recycling Program to scale back the program and allow the private electronic waste recycling companies throughout the state to handle a larger portion of this waste. The Computer Recycling Program will continue 16 drop off centers limited to our state correctional institutions.

Our black box sites are for non-profit and government organizations along with households that have 5 pieces or less. For more than 5 pieces (ex. CPU, monitor, keyboard and mouse is considered 4 pieces) a pick up can be scheduled or the equipment could be dropped off at two of our locations. Scheduling a pick up could take up to 2 months. Individuals and non-profit or government organizations can drop off their equipment either at our Waupun warehouse located at 510 Industrial Drive, Waupun or at our Racine location located at 1414 Albert Street.

On December 1st, 2004, we increased our monitor-recycling fee from $2.50 per monitor to $5.00. This fee is charged regardless of whether monitors are dropped off at our facilities or picked up at the customer's location.

BSI will accept all computer-related items. This would include whole computers, printers, scanners, data communication hardware, toner cartridges, and any other peripherals that are computer related. We do not accept any microwaves, batteries, cell phones, floppy disks, or other electronics.

Organizing a Clean Sweep is an option for municipalities and counties. Clean Sweeps are a means of encouraging citizens to recycle computer equipment by holding a community-wide event focused on recycling. This can be done by coordinating, with Badger State Industries, a date and location for the Clean Sweep. Badger State Industries would provide a semi-trailer and banners, while the community provides labor, advertisement, etc. Following the completion of the Clean Sweep, BSI will pick up the trailer and dispose of the computer equipment. The $5.00 per monitor fee will apply, however, sponsoring agencies may collect the $5.00 fee at the event.

For more information, contact: Mary **Mezera**
Computer Recycling Coordinator
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Computer Recycling is in for a switch this year, as the Wisconsin Bureau of Correctional Enterprises (BCE) cuts back on its collection and drop off services of electronic items.

Steve Kronzer, Director of Wisconsin's Bureau of Correctional Enterprises, clarified last week to a small group of local, regional and state governmental recycling officials in Waukesha that the Badger State Industries (BSI) has reduced its involvement in computer recycling efforts because of lack of funds, and also the inability to ensure proper management of items dropped off at unstaffed collection sites. BSI may be able to provide limited recycling service to local governments, institutions and non-profits provided that requests are submitted ahead of time. We have copied a memo describing BSI's revised computer recycling policies on the flip side of this message. With the BSI cutbacks, local and regional recycling programs will need to switch to new and alternative means of managing their computer recycling services.

Some Ideas for You

1. **Seek out partnerships** with local recycling companies or corporations with recycling divisions, or private contractors. Some examples include the contacts below currently being used by RUs and non-profit partners around the state. (*These examples should not be construed as an endorsement of these particular companies by DNR. Check the DNR Recycling Markets Directory for information on these and other recyclers: http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/markets/*)
    a) Cascade Asset Management, LLC. (Madison) *private contractor*
    b) National Recycling Coalition (www.nrc-recycle.org)
    c) Dell = (www.dell.com)
    d) Hewlett-Packard = (www.hp.com/recycle)
    e) Paragon Data Systems (Oconomowoc)
    f) Kleen Air (Rice Lake)- *private contractor*
    g) Lamp Recyclers (Twin Cities)- *private contractor*
    h) 5 R Recovery (Glen Flora)- *private contractor*

2. **Research sources of funding** such as viable options below:
    a) DNR Demonstration & Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grants: http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/EF/RECYCLE/Index.htm
    b) Grants from corporations with recycling divisions (Dell, HP, etc.)
    c) Computer recycling fees (charged to general public)
    d) Partnerships with local computer recycling companies who provide service for lower costs

3. **Incorporate what others are doing** around the state:
    a) Madison Recycling Center
        1) Takes computers directly from public for a fee (based on weight)
        2) Partners with Cascade Asset Mgmt. for twice a year computer drop off program
    b) WasteCap Wisconsin: http://www.wastecapwi.org/
        1) Computer Collection Collaborative with Paragon Data Systems at an Oconomowoc Business Park (mall). Obsolete computers were picked up and taken to Cascade Asset Management for deconstruction
    c) NW Regional Planning Commission
        1) Clean Sweep event conducted with private contractor, Kleen Air in Rice Lake this year, included the addition of electronics in the Sweep
        2) Conducted 10 electronic collections in 10 counties in NW region in 2004

For more information on computer/electronic recycling strategies, contact:
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Dan Fields, Bureau of Communication & Education, DNR, 608-266-5334, Dan.Fields@dnr.state.wi.us
Steven Brachman at U.W. Extension – Solid & Hazardous Waste Education Center (SHWEC), 414-227-3160, brachman@uwm.edu